A HUSKER PREVIEW? FROST SCORES BIGGEST WIN AS COACH AT PEACH BOWL. SPORTS

Omaha World-Herald

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018 • SUNRISE EDITION • REAL. FAIR. ACCURATE.

NO ALCOHOL SOLD

Legislators again to target clubs with nude dancers

Owner of Omaha strip joint laughs off new effort to apply state liquor laws to his four 'bottle clubs'

By Paul Hammel
WORLD-HERALD BUREAU

LINCOLN — Nebraska's newest state senator and one of its most seasoned lawmakers are mounting a new effort to bring private "bottle clubs," like a strip club operating in central Omaha, under state regulation.

But the owner of Club Omaha, and three similar clubs across Nebraska featuring fully nude dancers, chuckled when informed of the latest attempt to rein in his businesses.

"We're five steps ahead of them," said Shane Harrington, the owner. "I knew this was coming. I planned for it back when it was supposed to be happening the last time."

Last year, a bill in the Legislature that included regulation of bottle clubs bogged down over other issues. The Omaha City Council, after concluding that it had limited power to shut down such private clubs, passed an ordinance requiring bottle clubs to adhere to "good neighbor" rules already required of liquor establishments.

Harrington said last week that his lawyers have a lawsuit ready if the Legislature passes a law to limit his hours and require him to obtain a state license. Such a lawsuit could take "years and years" to resolve, he said.

"They know I'll go all the way to the Supreme Court on all of this," Harrington said. "I'll gladly take the extra advertising and marketing."

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Former Omahan helps create small worlds that are both familiar and fantastical

C+C MINI FACTORY

MINIATURE SCENES A BIG HIT ON INSTAGRAM

Above, the artists' subjects are almost always animals, like turtles picnicking at the beach or a cat in a wizard cap. An Omaha scene, center, features geese.

Erin Grace
COLUMNIST

One windy winter day, a New Yorker walked midway across the wood plank bridge at Gene Leahy Mall and carefully began staging her Omaha photo.

Quinn Metal Corbin had everything she needed: One stone gray park bench about the size of a felt-tip pen cap. One teeny, tiny bowl the circumference of a pencil eraser. Three white geese, each no longer than your fingernail. A handful of glue dots to hold everything in place. And one cellphone to capture her miniature scene.

(For the record, zero Matt Damons. Size is the theme of Omaha director Alexander Payne's movie "Downsizing," which mostly used computer graphics to shrink an Omaha man — played by Damon — in a storyline about the upsides of being small.)

For this latest creation, the photographer set about arranging her scene atop the bridge's metal railing. Bench here. Goose, goose, goose there. Water dish. Behind the stagecraft was one of the most Omaha scenes in Omaha — a familiar backdrop that includes the park lagoon, W. Dale Clark Library, twin red towers and the First National Bank Building. Conveniently, some actual geese wandered around the parkland below.

"There are always geese down here," the 34-year-old former Omahan said knowingly. There are almost never pretend geese, though, posing on a railing for an Instagram

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COSTS, WORKLOAD

Politically popular push for rights of crime victims faces backlash

California advocate donates millions to create legislation in other states

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — After his sister was slain and his mother ran into the accused killer, out on bail, in a grocery store a week later, California billionaire Henry Nicholas became a fierce advocate for the rights of crime victims.

He donated millions from his fortune as co-founder of tech giant Broadcom to create a "crime victims' bill of rights"— dubbed Marsy's Law after his slain sister Marsalee — and add it to the state's constitution in 2008.

Now Nicholas is taking his crusade nationwide, with teams of lobbyists, public relations firms and high-powered political strategists converging on other state capitols for a similar push. But while the idea of standing up for crime victims is an easy sell politically, complaints are mounting that the initiative is becoming a testament to the danger of unintended consequences.

Not just defense lawyers, but some local prosecutors, police and victims' advocates are con-

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Unrest in Iran

Leader appeals for calm as a police officer is the latest killed in protests. **Page 5A**

A year of firsts

Omaha's debut infant of 2018 is the smallest first baby born here this decade. **Midlands**

Omaha forecast

High: 17 **Low:** 7
Plenty of sunshine **Details:** Page 5B

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OTHERS FILL VOID

Stature of U.S. teeters amid policy shifts, foreign leaders say

Jerusalem, climate change among positions experts see as hurting influence

Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — China has now assumed the mantle of fighting climate change, a global crusade that the United States once led. Russia has taken over Syrian peace talks, also once the purview of the American administration, whose officials Moscow recently agreed to invite to negotiations only as observers.

France and Germany are often now the countries that fellow members of NATO look to, after President Donald Trump wavered on how supportive his administration would be toward the North Atlantic alliance.

And in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the U.S., once the only mediator all sides would accept, has found itself isolated after Trump's decision to declare that the U.S. recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

In his wide-ranging speech recently on national security, Trump highlighted what he called the broadening of U.S. influence

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